

Wycombe give

SAT 16/12/78

Hendon a gift goal

Hendon.....1
Wycombe Wanderers 0
Hendon's biggest defeat
of the season so far was
the 5-0 drubbing at
Wycombe Wanderers in
August.

On Saturday,
Hendon took their
revenge, beating
Wycombe 1-0. But the
goal was a present, gift-
wrapped and just in time
for Christmas to end
Hendon's run of five
successive games
without a win.

The decisive goal in the 12th minutes also helped to reshape the course of the game. The home defence was taking a fair pounding before former Hendon star Allan Phillips conceded a silly corner. He attempted a pass back to left-back Bobby Davies, but they muffed it between them, and the ball went for a corner.

A defender ducked as Graham Sewell's inswinging kick came over from the right, and the ball struck the surprised John Maskell, who was standing by the near post, rebounded off the goalkeeper's body into the net.

Lifted
It lifted Hendon to greater effort — though they only forced one more corner to Wycombe's 12 — and they never looked in any danger of losing.

Goalkeeper Gary Steel, given strong defensive cover, frequently fisted the ball away with the skill of a boxer, and the team benefited from the tremendous efforts of central defender Alan Campbell and Gary Hand, some good play by Alan Roughan and John Steer, with skipper Rod Haider also having an impressive outing.

Up front, the tireless, but often frustrating Roy Butler made it a difficult afternoon for Phillips and should really have given Hendon a more impressive result. He did hit the bar in the 19th minute, but missed an easier chance when put clean through by Ray O'Callaghan. Butler side-stepped Phillips before slipping over as he shot too quickly, and was well wide with only the goalkeeper to beat.

Poor pass

Hendon almost paid the penalty for a poor back pass by Hand just before the interval, but with Steel drawn out of position, Steve Hardwick, who intercepted,

angled over an empty net.

Game Mickey Cooper was knocked out in the 52nd minute during a goalmouth skirmish as Wycombe tried to fight their way back; and, though slightly concussed, heroically carried on.

Georgie Brooks fluffed a great chance after 69 minutes following a splendid cross by Sewell, but the miss of the match must go to Phillips, who tried to back-head a corner from the left only to put over the Hendon bar.

Afterwards both Steer and Roughan reported groin in-

juries, and could miss the league visit to Hayes on Boxing Day morning.

It adds to the worries of manager Dave Hogwood, who has doubts about Peter Deadman, hurt again playing for the reserves on Saturday. Peter Anderson also has domestic problems. All is not well with his baby born last week.

Hendon: Steel, Cooper, Hand, Roughan, Campbell, Haider, O'Callaghan, Steer, Butler, Sewell, Brooks. Substitute: Garrini.

Wycombe: Maskell, Birdseye, Davies, Mead, Phillips, Hardwick, Atkins, Holifield, Long, Kennedy, Scott. Substitute: Evans.